

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
REGULAR WORK SESSION
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2009
7:00P.M.**

Council President Shivers called the meeting to order at 7:07p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Latasha Gatling (7:21p.m.), Mayor Eugene Grant (ABSENT), Councilmember Darrell Hardy (ABSENT), Councilmember Kelly Porter., Councilmember Gerald R. Raynor, Sr, Council President Shivers, Councilmember Elenora Simms, Councilmember Reveral Yeargin (ABSENT)

STAFF: Robert Ashton, Acting City Administrator and Dashaun Lanham, City Clerk

The Invocation was given by Councilman Porter

AGENDA: Councilmember Simms motion to postpone the second reading of Ordinance 10-01 until September 14, 2009. The motion carried. Councilmember Raynor motion to approve the agenda with the changes, and Councilmember Simms seconded. The motion carried

PRESENTATION:

Jocelyn Harris, Assistant Housing Developer with Housing Initiative Partnership has requested a Resolution of support for the application submitted for Community Legacy funds to acquire and rehabilitate one home in Seat Pleasant. They are interested in purchasing a foreclosed property for \$70,000-\$80,000, and the remaining monies will be spent for rehabbing the property. They settled on the property on Hylton Street today, and we will have new residents in Seat Pleasant. They have \$40,000 remaining that will be used for salaries and administrative cost. Councilman Porter has requested to receive a progress report in addition to the quarterly reports that are due the State of Maryland. Council President Shivers stated that the Resolution will be added to the Monday, September 14, 2009 Public Session Agenda.

REPORTS:

Robert Ashton, Acting City Administrator, reported on the budget cuts from the State, which resulted in a loss of \$142,149 in the current FY2010 Budget. He has

reviewed the budget and doesn't feel we will need to cut monies in the various departmental budgets. He has recommended that the Council keep the current vacant police officer position open for the remainder budget year and the Administrative Clerk position open until March 1, 2010; this will cover the deduction in the current budget.

REFUSE CONTRACT-Fielding Services is his recommended company to begin the refuse collection in Seat Pleasant. They have current residential and recycling experience. He would like to look into them a little further, and give an answer by the September 30, 2009 Business Session.

Councilmember Gatling would like to see more information on the company that has been recommended and submitted the proposal. She does feel that the City's needs to consider another Waste Management company, as we are being charged an astronomical rate. We should not be researching their clients, as they should have provided that information at the submission. She would like to know how many trucks they currently have in their fleet. Mr. Ashton will be performing an audit on the company, and stated that they have three trucks. The concerns is servicing the city in ample time, and not having our trash sitting outside all day. What will happen with the recycling day and trash being picked up on the same days? Councilmember Porter is concerned about pricing. Councilmember Raynor is concerned with pricing and the location of the company. Councilmember Shivers stated that he wanted to know what are the concerns with Bates, and how long are we planning on having any company under contract. Mr. Ashton stated that Bates didn't want to be locked into a two year contract, which was presented to him by the City. He wants to be able to review the contract each year, without a lock in. Mr. Ashton stated that the service is that he's not picking up the trash often times until noon. Councilman Shivers asked, what type of terms are we asking under the contract? Mr. Ashton stated that he would recommend four years, and in two years we review. It was stated by Mr. Ashton that Bates was never under a contract, although, we sat at the table with them to negotiate a contract and they verbally agreed, but wouldn't sign. Councilman Shivers stated that the rates are negotiable and we need to enter into a two to three year contract. Mr. Ashton stated that we need to go along with LGIT and the attorney and follow the process of the response from the RFP's. Councilmember Gatling recommended that we consider one year terms to allow us to review to ensure we get quality services. She is interested in quality service with a reasonable price.

Debt Policy- He has spoken with the State Treasury Office, and they said we need to pass a resolution to state our debt policy, which is in our Charter under section C-816-C-820

Uniform-Public Works-During the deliberation of the budget the uniform line item was reduced from \$8,000 to \$5,000. Councilmember Gatling wanted a proposal on purchasing the uniforms. It was recommended that the Council receives a cost analysis on purchase versus renting by Wednesday, September 30, 2009.

C-Safe Coordinator position-Mr. Ashton stated that he feels we need to bring the previous Lead Coordinator back until October 31, 2009 to complete the next quarterly report. We have applied for the modification, and the monies of \$13,000.00 will come from the grants coordinator position. If we aren't approved for the modification we will need to transfer monies from the Administration budget to the police department budget. The plan, if she decides not to return will be to move a staff person into that position. We aren't in violation of the grant because the position is vacant. We are required to submit the reports when due.

NLC Prescription Program Participation-Councilmember Simms reported that three hundred and eleven cities are participating in the program. It is of no cost to the city, and she wanted to bring it to the Council attention to give approval for Mr. Ashton to forward application. The submission of the application was unanimously approved.

SPCDC Request for Usage of Council Chambers- Ms. Barnes would like to kick off the greening initiative at the request of President Obama for September 11, 2009. They are on face book sponsoring the program. They will be selecting five household in the city based upon income to be approved for the program and have a green imitative performed in their homes.

Review of City Administrator Resumes-The Council will be reviewing the City Administrator resumes on Wednesday, September 30, 2009.

Council President Nomination-The following Council has been nominated for the Council Presidency, Gatling, Porter and Simms. The election will be held on Monday, September 14, 2009.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SPCDC "Greening the Community Meeting" Friday, September 11, 2009 at 7:00-9:00p.m., in the Council Chambers

Public Session, Monday, September 14, 2009 at 7:00p.m., in the Council Chambers

Adjourn-It was motioned by Councilmember Gatling to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:35p.m.

Submitted by,

Dashaun Lanham
City Clerk